

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY EUR/CE:RDJOHNSON:DHT
APPROVED BY EUR:JEGOODBY
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TO AMEMBASSY BONN
INFO USMISSION USBERLIN
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
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AMEMBASSY PARIS
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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 007882

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, BQG

SUBJECT: REPLIES TO SOVIET PROTESTS ON MINISTER-
PRESIDENTS MEETING IN BERLIN AND BAUM STATEMENT

REF: BONN 21148; STATE 1524

1. DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY GOODBY PRESENTED
ALLIED REPLIES TO SOVIET PROTESTS ON THE BAUM
STATEMENT AND ON THE MEETING OF MINISTER-PRESIDENTS
IN BERLIN TO SOVIET CHARGE VASEV ON JANUARY 10.
GOODBY PREFACED THE REPLIES BY STATING THAT THE USG,
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LIKE THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT, CONSIDERED THE QA TO BE
VERY IMPORTANT AND HAD THEREFORE GIVEN THE SOVIET
STATEMENTS CAREFUL CONSIDERATION BEFORE REPLYING.

2. IN RESPONSE TO THE REPLY ON THE BAUM STATEMENT,
VASEV ASKED IF THE REPORTS CITED IN THE SOVIET
STATEMENT WERE INACCURATE. GOODBY REPLIED THAT PARTS

OF THE COMPLEX BAUM STATEMENT HAD BEEN TAKEN OUT OF CONTEXT. READ AS A WHOLE, HE SAID, THE BAUM STATEMENT SHOULD GIVE THE SOVIETS AND THE ALLIES NO CAUSE FOR CONCERN. GOODBY ALSO REFERRED VASEV TO THE TEXTS OF THE TWO SUBSEQUENT FRG STATEMENTS MENTIONED IN THE REPLY. VASEV SAID THAT HE WOULD CONVEY THE REPLY TO MOSCOW AND RESERVE FURTHER COMMENT UNTIL IT HAD BEEN STUDIED THERE.

3. CONCERNING THE MEETING OF MINISTER-PRESIDENTS, VASEV SAID THAT THE REFERENCE IN THE US STATEMENT TO PREVIOUS MEETINGS OF THE CONFERENCE IN BERLIN MADE IT MORE APT THAT THE SOVIETS REACT TO THE MOST RECENT MEETING TO PREVENT IT FROM BECOMING A PRECEDENT. HE SAID HE WOULD NOT DISPUTE THAT THE CONFERENCE IS A CONSULTATIVE BODY BUT HIS GOVERNMENT FEELS STRONGLY THAT THE HOLDING OF THE MEETING IN BERLIN WAS A LEGALISTIC WAY TO CIRCUMVENT THE PROVISIONS OF THE QA. THE SOVIETS OBJECT, HE SAID, TO THE PRESENT TREND IN WHICH THE FRG IS ATTEMPTING TO ENLARGE ITS TIES TO BERLIN. GOODBY REMINDED HIM THAT THE QA PERMITS THE DEVELOPMENT OF TIES BETWEEN THE FRG AND BERLIN AND THAT, IN ANY EVENT, THE MEETING OF MINISTER-PRESIDENTS WAS WELL WITHIN THE PROVISIONS OF THE QA. VASEV CONCLUDED THAT HE WOULD SEND THE REPLY TO MOSCOW FOR HIS GOVERNMENT TO STUDY. CHRISTOPHER
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